

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1. An alcove whirlpool seat for use in a spa system, said alcove  
2       whirlpool seat comprising:
  - 3           (a) a seat member having a circumference;
  - 4           (b) a seat back having arm portions on opposite sides of said seat  
5       back, said seat back extending annularly upward from a portion of  
6       said circumference of said seat member, said seat back and at  
7       least part of said arm portions substantially defining a whirlpool  
8       area;
  - 9           (c) said arm portions defining an open span;
  - 10          (d) at least one jet nozzle positioned to direct a stream within said  
11       whirlpool area; and
  - 12          (e) said at least one jet nozzle, said seat back, and said arm portions  
13       together creating a whirlpool within said whirlpool area.
- 1           2. The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 1, wherein said alcove whirlpool  
2       seat is a horseshoe seat, said horseshoe seat further comprising:
  - 3           (a) a first arm portion having an interior first arm surface and a first arm  
4       face; and
  - 5           (b) a second arm portion having an interior second arm surface and a  
6       second arm face, said second arm portion being substantially a  
7       mirror image to said first arm portion.
- 1           3. The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 2, said horseshoe seat further  
2       comprising said at least one jet nozzle positioned in said interior first arm surface to  
3       direct said stream toward said seat back and at least one jet nozzle positioned in said

4      interior second arm surface to direct said stream across said open span and toward  
5      said interior first arm surface.

1                  4.      The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 2, at least one jet nozzle  
2      directing said stream around said seat back and at least one jet nozzle directing said  
3      stream across said open span.

1                  5.      An alcove whirlpool seat spa system, said spa system comprising:

2                    (a)     a spa system having an interior spa area;

3                    (b)     at least one alcove whirlpool seat within said interior spa area, each  
4      at least one alcove whirlpool seat comprising:

5                    (i)     a seat member having a circumference;

6                    (ii)    a seat back having arm portions on opposite sides of said  
7      seat back, said seat back extending annularly upward from a  
8      portion of said circumference of said seat member, said seat  
9      back and at least part of said arm portions substantially  
10     defining a whirlpool area;

11                 (iii)    said arm portions defining an open span;

12                 (iv)    at least one jet nozzle positioned to direct a stream within  
13     said whirlpool area to create a whirlpool flow; and

14                 (v)    said at least one jet nozzle, said seat back, and said arm  
15     portions together creating a whirlpool within said whirlpool  
16     area;

17                 (c)    a spa water flow within said interior spa area and outside said  
18     whirlpool area; and

19                 (d)    said whirlpool flow within said whirlpool area is substantially  
20     separate from spa water flow.

1               6.     The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 5, wherein said at least one  
2 alcove whirlpool seat is at least one horseshoe seat, each said horseshoe seat further  
3 comprising:

- 4               (a)    a first arm portion having an interior first arm surface and a first arm  
5 face; and  
6               (b)    a second arm portion having an interior second arm surface and a  
7 second arm face, said second arm portion being substantially a  
8 mirror image to said first arm portion.

1               7.     The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 6, each said horseshoe seat  
2 further comprising said at least one jet nozzle positioned in said interior first arm surface  
3 to direct said stream toward said seat back and at least one jet nozzle positioned in said  
4 interior second arm surface to direct said stream across said open span and toward  
5 said interior first arm surface.

1               8.     The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 7, at least one jet nozzle  
2 directing said stream around said seat back and at least one jet nozzle directing said  
3 stream across said open span.

1               9.     The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 5, wherein said at least one  
2 alcove whirlpool seat is a pair of cooperative horseshoe seats, each said horseshoe  
3 seat further comprising:

- 4               (a)    a first arm portion having an interior first arm surface and a first arm  
5 face; and  
6               (b)    a second arm portion having an interior second arm surface and a  
7 second arm face, said second arm portion being substantially a  
8 mirror image to said first arm portion.

1               10.    The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 9, each said horseshoe seat  
2 further comprising said at least one jet nozzle positioned in said first arm face.

1           11. The alcove whirlpool seat of claim 9, at least one jet nozzle  
2 directing said stream from a first arm portion of a first cooperative horseshoe seat  
3 across a span and toward a second arm portion of a second cooperative horseshoe  
4 seat, and at least one jet nozzle directing said stream from a first arm portion of said  
5 second cooperative horseshoe seat across a span and toward a second arm portion of  
6 said first cooperative horseshoe seat